

Faculty members oppose semester switch in report

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The perspective, the president does not have the authority to change the academic calendar. Rather, he said, the perspective "calls for a review of existing and alternative calendars."

On the whole, Myers said, the report is less concerned with how the conversion is taking place and is more concerned with the fact that it is taking place at all.

The decision to convert is "more than just a calendar change," Myers said; it is a "policy decision," because it will "affect the overall missions of the University."

The committee report said the perspective calls for the president to "consult those affected by decisions, disclose criteria for decision making, describe the decision-making process, and provide opportunities for reactions after decisions are made."

The report said Oswald's communications to the community about the calendar conversion were not consultation but rather were only information.

Myers said Oswald's letters to the community in the Penn State Intercom indicated that Oswald planned to have the switch made unless negative opinions were heard.

The way Oswald announced the conversion decision dampened any true discussion on the issue, Myers said.

"People thought (discussion) would be a waste of breath," he said.

Even so, Myers said, Oswald received many negative opinions on the change to semesters, even before his official decision was made on March 12, 1981.

And the report said that most of the negative opinions received by Oswald were not publicized.

Although the report does not cite specific examples of negative opinion that were not publicized, Myers said the committee is aware of several examples.

"We know that there were a number of departments that voted unanimously in opposition to the concept (of changing to semesters)," he said.

Myers said he knows of a lot of people who wrote letters to Oswald opposing the switch. But, he said, "I have yet to run into anyone who even got an acknowledgment that their letters were received."

Also, the report said, the semester calendar Oswald originally considered and the calendar now proposed are quite different.

At the time Oswald was asking for input, "no one knew what they were addressing," Myers said.

Oswald originally proposed 15-week semesters and 50-minute class periods, the report said.

However, "the class schedule that the Calendar Conversion Council is now working with—called Flex 83C—has 14-week semesters and 55- and 80-minute class periods."

"While the reduction of three terms to two semesters would suggest a change from three 10-week terms, to two 15-week semesters, the objective is to have only 14-week semesters, thus cutting the academic year by almost 7 percent," the report said.

"Students will have to increase course loads by 50 percent to make up for the conversion from three terms to two semesters, but will only have 40 percent more time per semester in which to absorb the 50 percent increase," it said.

In addition, the report cited Oswald's reported reasons for making the switch and said: "An examination of these reasons fails to provide evidence to justify the change on any basis except personal preference."

The report also urged withdrawal of the decision to convert "until such time as a full review of (the conversion's)

Block 45 plan prompted faculty opposition to switch

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impact on the primary missions of the University is completed and the resulting benefit or detriment is assessed."

The report lists several effects that committee members think will result from the class schedule now proposed. Among these are:

- An increase in pressure on students.
- A reduction of available course offerings, making it difficult for students to get the variety of courses now offered, and making it more difficult to sequence courses.
- A reduction in student-professor contact because both groups will have more complex schedules and bigger classes.
- A reduction in blocks of free time for uninterrupted study, research activities,

faculty meetings and part-time student employment.

- A decrease in faculty productivity because of more fragmented teaching loads with more preparations.
- Some prerequisites must be dropped.
- Some sequences of courses must be dropped.

In addition to having an adverse effect on the University after conversion takes place, the conversion itself is costing the University valuable resources, the report said.

"Committees in almost every department and program have been working to address these difficulties as well as issues of administrative committees. This process is diverting significant resources from the primary tasks and missions of

the University.

"The conversion process has not been budgeted nor costed out and as a result, the actual expenditure to be made for the change is unknown," the report said.

Myers added: "At all sorts of levels, people's time is being spent on the conversion," accounting for hidden costs that do not show up in a budget.

When announcing his official decision to switch to semesters, Oswald said: "The total tuition for an academic year will not increase as a function of the calendar change," the report said.

But, because no one knows how much money the conversion process is costing the University, no one can know if the conversion will affect tuition, Myers said.

There were, probably for every person who signed that document, three or four people who were asked, who—because of concern with the impact it would have on them by associating their name with it, not because they disagreed with it—wouldn't sign it."

When asked if he thinks endorsing the document will have adverse effects on the careers of those who signed it, Myers said: "I'm not going to point the finger at anyone to indicate that retribution would follow."

"I would certainly hope that an academic community, if nothing else, if you're not free to speak out on any issue, and especially an issue that involves the community, we're in a sad state," he said.

Myers said the committee members and other faculty members who endorsed the document did not go through channels established by University President John W. Oswald because those channels are very limited.

"These are all committees that are trying to address the question of how—how do we fit this square peg into this round hole—not should it be done," he said. "This document addresses the whole issue of should it be done."

"It was generally believed among everyone in the group that some sort of document ought to be prepared to set forth all of the concerns—at least as many of them as you could reasonably put into a reasonably sized document," he said.

Throughout December, Myers said, the idea of a document was discussed with other people—"people as high as associate deans and deans"—to see what they thought about it.

"Every comment that seemed to come back was very favorable towards the idea of doing something like that (a document) . . . Everybody agreed that the thing needed to be discussed—even those people who felt pedagogically disposed towards semesters felt that there was something awfully wrong going on."

During December, January and February research was done, Myers said, and the committee met to approve the document.

After it was completed, the report was reviewed by committee members and other faculty members. Fifteen faculty members have agreed to endorse the document.

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sports

Lady cagers trounce Clemson

By GREG LODER
Collegian Sports Writer

Kahadejah Herbert makes a diving save of a ball headed out-of-bounds and dishes it to Annie Troyan. Troyan then hits Deb Christian at mid-court, who in turn dribbles downcourt and dishes off a perfect bounce pass to Louise Leimkuhler for the easy layup.

If there was one basket that typified the women's basketball team's 96-75 demolition of Clemson on Friday night at Rec Hall in the first game of the NCAA playoffs, it had to be this one.

Sure the basket came with 31 seconds left in the game with the outcome already decided, but it, along with the Lady Lions' overall performance, showed a great amount of team effort and depth.

Penn State will now move on to the second round of the tournament, which will be played Friday in Knoxville, Tenn. The Lady Lions will play the University of Southern California, which defeated Kent State, 99-85.

Against Clemson, the difference in the game was Penn State's depth, but in the first two minutes, the Lady Lions might have worried about being able to finish with five players.

Starting center Cheryl Ellison went down under the basket after reinjuring her right knee. She left the game and never returned. The loss of Ellison left Penn State with only three players on the bench because of Brenda Scheffle not being able to play because of mono-nucleosis.

But of those eight players able to play, six of them scored in double figures, while Clemson had only two in double digits. Penn State's depth was something Portland said was going to be the overriding factor.

"This has to be the biggest win," Portland said, "and we had a good all-around game. Six in double figures versus two had to be the difference."

Forward Louise Leimkuhler, who scored a career-high 26 points, said the Lady Lions' depth allowed everyone to play a little more aggressively.

"We weren't afraid to hustle," Leimkuhler said, "and if we got into foul trouble, we knew there was someone just as good to come off the bench."

On the other side of the court, however, Clemson's bench barely existed. In fact, beyond forward Barbara Kennedy's 43 points and guard Mary Anne Cubelic's 16 points, no Lady Tiger scored more than four points. Clemson coach Annie Tribble said her team's lack of depth led to the Lady Tigers' demise.

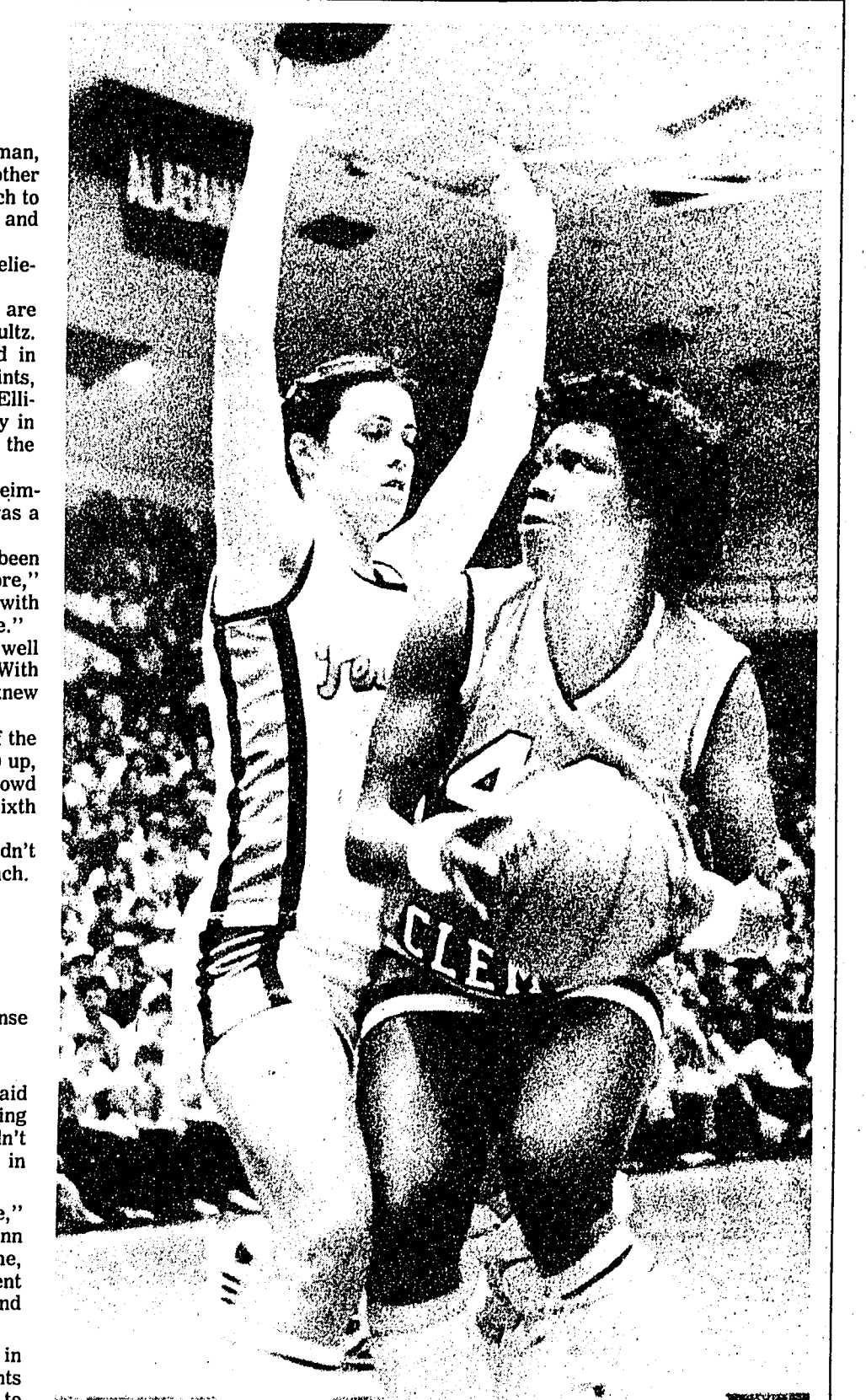
"The inability of our players to perform to potential was the difference," Tribble said. "There was not enough firepower."

Clemson did get some "firepower" from Kennedy, who is the leading scorer in the nation, and her 43 points set a Rec Hall scoring record for women. She fouled out of the game with more than a minute to play and said goodbye to a four-year career with a standing ovation from the home crowd of 2,553 (second-largest women's basketball crowd in Penn State history).

Leimkuhler, who had the impossible task of guarding Kennedy, described her ability in one word—"awesome."

But with Kennedy scoring freely, it was the Penn State defense on Clemson's other four players that made the difference. Guards Troyan and Carol Walderman harassed the Lady Tigers' guards for 40 minutes, never allowing Clemson to run its offense the way the Lady Tigers wanted.

Portland said she thought the Lady



Lady Lion forward Louise Leimkuhler (left) had her hands full trying to guard Clemson's Barbara Kennedy, the nation's leading scorer who scored 43 points, Friday night at Rec Hall as the women's basketball team raced to an easy win.

Leimkuhler a real showstopper

By SHARON FINK
Collegian Sports Writer

In the past, Louise Leimkuhler has been an "attitude problem" in the mind of women's basketball coach Rene Portland. But Friday night, Leimkuhler was "unreal."

In Penn State's 96-75 win over Clemson on Friday in the first round of the NCAA playoffs, the junior forward's performance reflected the consistent improvement in her game that has been going on all year. Leimkuhler scored a team- and career-high 26 points on 12 of 19 shooting from the floor (63 percent) and on strong inside play against Clemson's one-woman team, Barbara Kennedy.

At the other end of the court, Leimkuhler had to guard Kennedy, the leading scorer in the country, who scored a record 43 points, she made it sound like her biggest accomplishment of the night was not collapsing from exhaustion.

"Just trying to deny her the ball," Leimkuhler said, "you're so pooped that you go down to the end of the court and you're like, 'Fant, pant,' and then you gotta play offense and then you gotta go back down and play defense and you're tired again."

She should also play dress-up more often. Portland said Leimkuhler, who is student teaching this term and is living with Portland, her husband and their two children, hadn't been feeling well last week and didn't look good in practice. Until Thursday.

"Thursday" the three of them came to practice," Portland said. "Louise came dressed as Bobby (Penn State assistant coach Foley), Debbie (Christman) was me, and Carol Walderman was my husband, John. They went into the bedroom of my house and stole all my clothes and came to the practice dressed as the three of us."

"Carol had my husband's walk down to a T. And in Bobby's case, the girls always swear he wears his pants too high. So they had the pants too high. And that seemed to be the trick for Louise. When Louise acts goofy, that's when she plays her best."

Which is what she did against Clemson.

Please see LEIMKUHLER, Page 14.

Lady Lions ease to 5th consecutive Eastern title

By KATHY HETTMANSPERGER
Collegian Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH — Make that five—five consecutive Eastern regional championships for the women's gymnastics team. And five times that the Lady Lions have earned a coveted place in the national championships, this year to be held Mar. 26-27 at Utah.

Penn State's four previous regional titles were won while the Lady Lions were members of the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women.

This year's was the first won as a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the first title as Northeast Regional champions.

Though the title was different, the story was the same.

An expected battle with host Pitt never surfaced as Penn State buried the Lady Panthers, along with all other competition, with 143.15 points at Fitzgerald Field House Friday night.

In fact, it was second-place University of New Hampshire (141.0) that proved to be the closest challenger. Penn State assistant coach Marshall Avenier was not surprised by New Hampshire's performance.

"We knew they were good when we saw the seeding charts and they were rated higher up than Pitt," he said. "They weren't much of a surprise to us."

After two events, the Lady Lions led New Hampshire by a mere .75 points and still had to compete on the balance beam and floor exercises.

Penn State had some problems with the beam during its stint to the West Coast, during which five Lady Lions fell off the beam a total of nine times against UCLA.

But all of that was behind them Friday night, since the 38.25 points on the beam broke the meet open and proved to be Penn State's top event of the night.

"The beam in gymnastics is like the passing game in football," Marshall said. "It can make or break us. Usually in our case, it makes us."

Leading the Lady Lions on the beam was captain Marcy Levine, who posted a 9.50, a career-high.

Levine took third place in the all-around competition with fine performances in the floor exercise (9.20), vault (8.85) and uneven parallel bars (8.65) as well as the beam.

"I'm very happy to say that I've been here four years and each year, we were regional champions," Levine said. "We seemed to own the beam. It's just great to know that five out of the eight girls on this team, qualified for the beam championship."

Heidi Anderson, last year's champ on everything, said she had some trouble with her beam routine, which received a 9.00 even with a fall.

"I'm a little tired after all the traveling," Anderson said. "Everyone hit their beam routine except me. I felt like I was walking on the side of the beam during the whole thing. I'm looking forward to the two-week break before nationals to work on fixing my beam."

Avenier agreed with Anderson about the travel fatigue from the West Coast trip.

Out on the coast, the Lady Lions competed in four meets in five days and had a one-day break in State College between the time they got back from that trip and left for regionals.

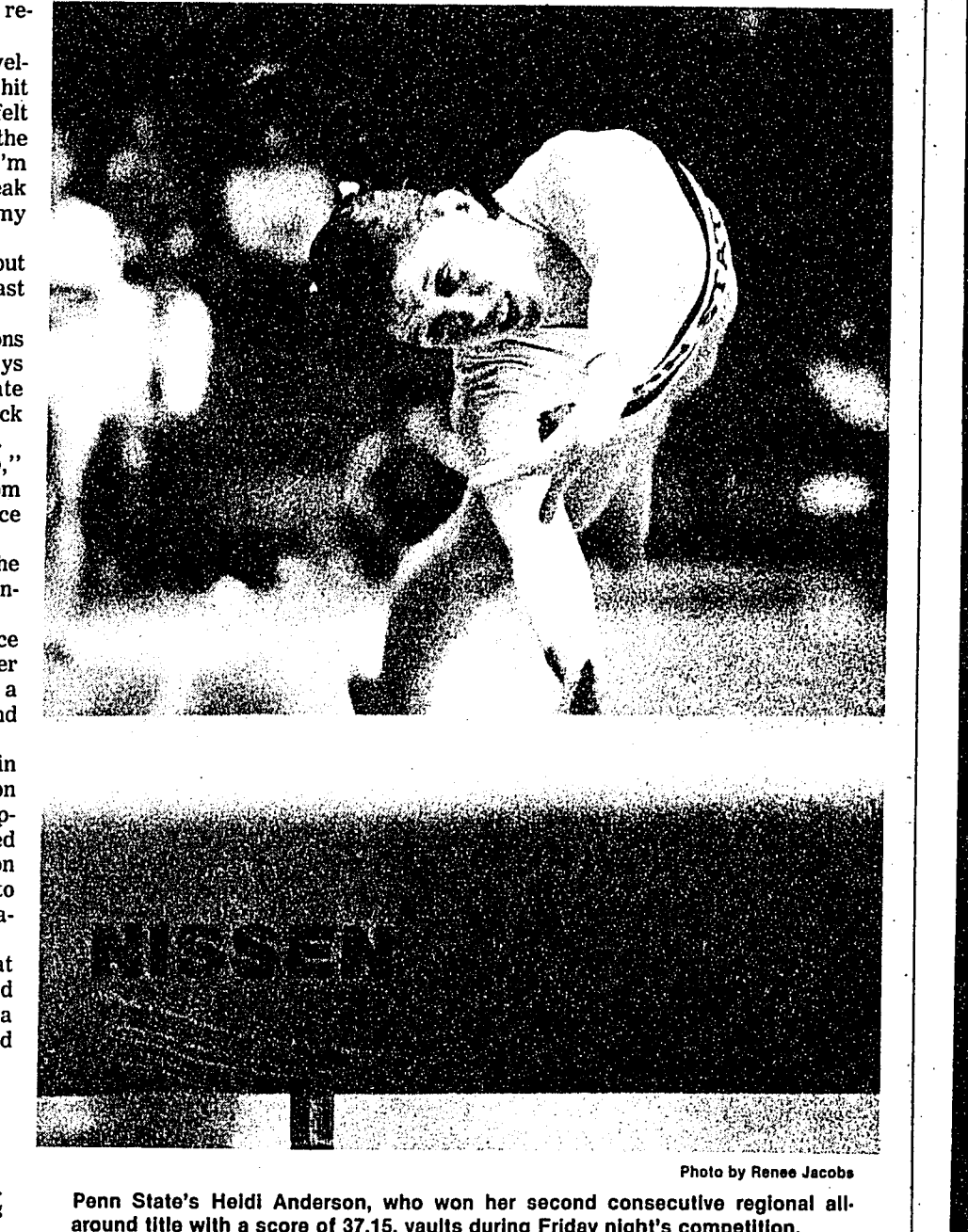
"They (the team) did a super job," Avenier said. "Everyone's tired from the trip out West. Heidi's performance was so-so. She's tired, too."

Penn State's highest score of the night did go to Anderson for her uneven bar routine.

Her virtually flawless performance earned a 9.83 and contributed to her 37.15 all-around total, which won her a second consecutive regional all-around title.

At nationals, Penn State will again be battling the same teams it faced on that torrid West Coast swing. Top-ranked Utah, a loser to second-ranked Oregon State in regional competition Friday, and UCLA, will all be back to fight with the Lady Lions for the national championship.

"Right now, I don't even know what we could hope for out there," said coach Judi Avenier. "Nobody's gonna walk away with it. Maybe we could finish in the top five."



Penn State's Heidi Anderson, who won her second consecutive regional all-around title with a score of 37.15, vaults during Friday night's competition.

Event titles no big deal to Anderson, Levine

By KEITH GROLLER
Collegian Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH — There were no big celebrations late Saturday night after Heidi Anderson and Marcy Levine each won individual event titles in the NCAA Northeast Regional meet at Pitt's Fitzgerald Field House.

There were no wild parties, no big nights in the Renaissance City. Just a bite to eat at a suburban Pittsburgh Denny's Restaurant with family and friends.

Anderson, who won all five titles in last year's AIAW regional meet, didn't sweep away the competition this time. But she did claim the all-around crown Friday night, and despite a tremendous amount of fatigue, came back to take the floor exercise

championship and finish third on the beam Saturday night.

A sleep-walking Anderson seems to be better than most wide-awake gymnasts.

"I was really out of it tonight," said Anderson, who posted a 9.50 Saturday to go with a Friday's 9.35 in the floor exercise. "I felt pretty good last night (Friday). But I only got five hours sleep and it was much more difficult to perform tonight."

Please see LEVINE, Page 14.